



# Sahuaro Weekly Update



*"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."*

**Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona**

**March 14, 2008**

Dear Sahuaro Friends and Neighbors,

As I drive through Glendale, I have noticed many commuters who are not wearing seat belts and children who are unrestrained. Today we often hear stories in the media about tragic accidents, made more tragic when motorists are seriously or fatally injured because they were not wearing seat belts. Please read the information I have provided below regarding seat belts and child restraint devices – and please follow it!

- Every person riding in a car or truck needs his or her own seat belt. Do not let passengers ride in storage areas or on someone's lap.
- Children always ride restrained with a car seat or seat belt and in the back seat.
- Infants should ride in rear-facing car seats until they are at least 20 pounds and at least one year old. Do not put a rear-facing car seat in the front seat of a vehicle with an active air bag.
- Children over one year old and between 20 and 40 pounds should ride in forward facing car seats.
- Children ages 4 to 8 and between 40 and 80 pounds should ride in booster seats restrained with lap and shoulder belts. A regular seat belt won't fully protect a child this size in a crash.
- Children and adults over 80 pounds should use a seat belt for every ride.

Did you know on average 80 percent of car seats are installed wrong or are being used the wrong way? It is important to use a car seat, but even more important that your car seat is properly installed and fitted. The Glendale Fire Department offers car seat installations/inspections done by certified car seat technicians. For more information or to schedule an inspection, [click here](#) or call (623) 930-SEAT (7328).

There is also something you can do if you observe a child, under the age of eight, not properly restrained while riding in a motor vehicle. Call the "Buckle Up, Baby" hotline number at **1-800-505-BABY**. You can call the 1-800 number and leave the following information: Vehicle license number and state, city observed in and where the child was sitting in the vehicle. A packet of useful information will be mailed to the registered owner stating that their vehicle was observed transporting an unrestrained child. The material describes the hazards of transporting unrestrained children under the age of 8, and encourages the owner to purchase a child restraint system.

Please take a moment to fasten your seat belt, set a good example to your teen drivers and secure little ones properly in car seats. Don't wait for tragedy to happen in your family. Seat belts save lives and reduce injuries when accidents happen; please **"buckle-up."**

-- Councilmember Steve Frate



**Glendale on Short List for New Home of USA Basketball.** After successfully attracting major league baseball, football and hockey, the Super Bowl, the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, the BCS Championship game and the Arizona Interscholastic Association's state championships, Glendale may soon be adding one more sport to our expanding lineup.

City officials have been notified that Glendale is one of four cities being considered to become the new headquarters for USA Basketball, the national governing body for men's and women's basketball in the country.

USA Basketball is looking to build a new training facility that will stage year-round signature basketball competitions and festivals, exhibition games, youth instructional programs, skills camps and coaching clinics and conferences throughout the year. Executive offices will also be built as part of the project.

Representatives of USA Basketball are expected to make a site visit to Glendale and the other selected cities over the next two months and plan to announce their new host city after the 2008 Summer Olympics are held.

**Spark Award Nominations.** Do you know an individual who has a special “spark” that you think deserves recognition? “Sparks” are those individuals, groups, and organizations that help create a vision of what their neighborhood should be.

We invite you to nominate that individual, neighborhood group, business or community organization for the 2008 Neighborhood Spark Award. Nominations are due May 1, 2008. For a copy of the nomination form, please [click here](#) or call the Neighborhood Partnerships Office at (623) 930-2868.

Established by the City of Glendale's Citizens' Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods in 2000, Spark Award categories include:



- Neighborhood Revitalization
- Traditional Neighborhood Leadership
- HOA Leadership
- Business Support & Involvement with Neighborhood
- Community Partner Award
- Young Leaders On the Move

The Spark Awards will be presented at the annual Neighborhood Leadership Forum on Saturday, June 28 at 8 a.m. at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive.

**Spring Extravaganza, Saturday, March 12.** Hop on over with the kids to the Sahuaro Ranch Park softball complex, 63rd Ave. and Mountain View Rd., on Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and be a part of Spring Extravaganza! The event features Mr. and Mrs. Bunny, Bubble Mania and “Eureka! Land.” Have the kids bring a hard-boiled egg for the Egg Decorating Contest and a basket to collect eggs during the Egg Scramble. Everyone can wear a WACKY hat and join the fun at the Wacky Hat Trot. Admission is free. For more information, call (623) 930-2042.

## Around Town

---

**Live at the Library.** Join us for Glendale's Live at the Library, a free performing arts series, at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening in the auditorium of Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. On March 20, Arizona harp and guitar artists, “D-Squared” will perform.

[Read more.](#)

**That Thursday Thing!** Shine your favorite boots and pull out your favorite cowboy hat as Historic Downtown Glendale goes Western for Spurs and Spendin' on March 20 from 5-8 p.m. Visitors will begin their Western experience at the Glendale Visitor Center, located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140, where they will receive a gift bag, event map and take a spin on the themed prize wheel. [Read more.](#)

**Cesar E. Chavez Breakfast.** Please join the West Valley in paying tribute to civil rights and farm laborer Cesar Chavez. Tickets are \$25 per person and \$250 for a table of 10. Proceeds benefit the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation and the Glendale Chamber Foundation. The event is March 28, 2008, from 7:30-9:30 a.m., at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive. [Read more.](#)

**Spring Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up – Deadline to Schedule, March 28.** The city of Glendale is providing residents an opportunity to safely and conveniently dispose of unwanted household hazardous waste. Collections will be handled March 24 through April 11, but you must make an appointment by March 28.

To make your appointment call the Sanitation Division at (623) 930-2660 beginning March 3. [Read more.](#)

**Glendale Family Bike Ride 2008.** Ready, set, ride! That's right, it's time for the annual Glendale Family Bike Ride, and 2008's event promises plenty of family fun and exercise. This year's ride is set for Sunday, April 13, 2008. Register early! [Read more.](#)

**Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival.** The city of Glendale's Gibson Jazz & Blues Festival will celebrate its 25th year with a tremendous lineup of local, regional and national entertainment in Historic Downtown Glendale April 12-13. The event will run 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 8 p.m. on Sunday. Admission and parking are free. [Read more.](#)

[Click here](#) for the City Council Meeting schedule.

**Contact Councilmember Frate**

**Council Office: (623) 930-2249**

**Home Office: (602) 439-8151**

**E-mail: [sfrate@glendaleaz.com](mailto:sfrate@glendaleaz.com)**